


1. STATE Maryland COUNTY Allegany TOWN Cumberland VICINITY STREET NO. Centre at Market Street ORIGINAL OWNER ORIGINAL USE PRESENT OWNER PRESENT USE WALL CONSTRUCTION NO. OF STORIES	HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY 92 INVENTORY HL - 17 2. NAME ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC CHURCH DATE OR PERIOD 1849 STYLE Ionic ARCHITECT BUILDER 3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC yes <p>A LOG structure, known as St. Mary's Church, a forerunner of the present edifice, was built on the site of Carroll Hall in 1791, under the guidance of Rev. Demetrius Gallitzin after the parish was founded a year previously by missionary priests.</p> <p>First resident pastor Rev. James Redmond came in 1819. Father Obermeyer assumed his duties in 1841 and remained a decade.</p> <p>1849--Construction began; completed in 1851, while Rev. Leonard A. Obermeyer was pastor.</p> <p>IONIC architecture with imposing white pillars.</p> <p>1858--Rev. Edward Brennan, a native of Ireland, was pastor for 26 years from 1858. During his pastorate the rectory was built and the church spire constructed. He organized St. Patrick's school.</p> <p>1898--Monsignor Edward J. Wunder came; remained 23 years. During his stay he had the church "so beautiful that it was regarded by very competent critics as an artistic triumph". Improvements included a baptistry, marble altar rail, three new marble alters, two side chapels and a new sanctuary. St. Mary's Church, Oldtown Road, was accomplished during his pastorate. CARROLL HALL also constructed during his years of service.</p> <p>1947--Church redecorated and improvement started on St. Patrick's School. --over--</p> <p>1966--Before this date, heating system was renewed.</p>	
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered Interior Beautiful Exterior Excellent	
 6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)	7. PHOTOGRAPH
8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC. Parish Brochure--1967/68 Baltimore Catholic Review- Research--Pauline McEvoy, Mem. MHT Committee-Allegany Co.	9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER Hazel Groves Hansrote, Chairman Maryland Historical Trust Sec. Preservation Society Allegany County, Md. DATE OF RECORD Oct. 1, 1970

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE

1989--Organ rebuilt (\$26,000)

Altar rail taken out

Interior painted and carpeted.

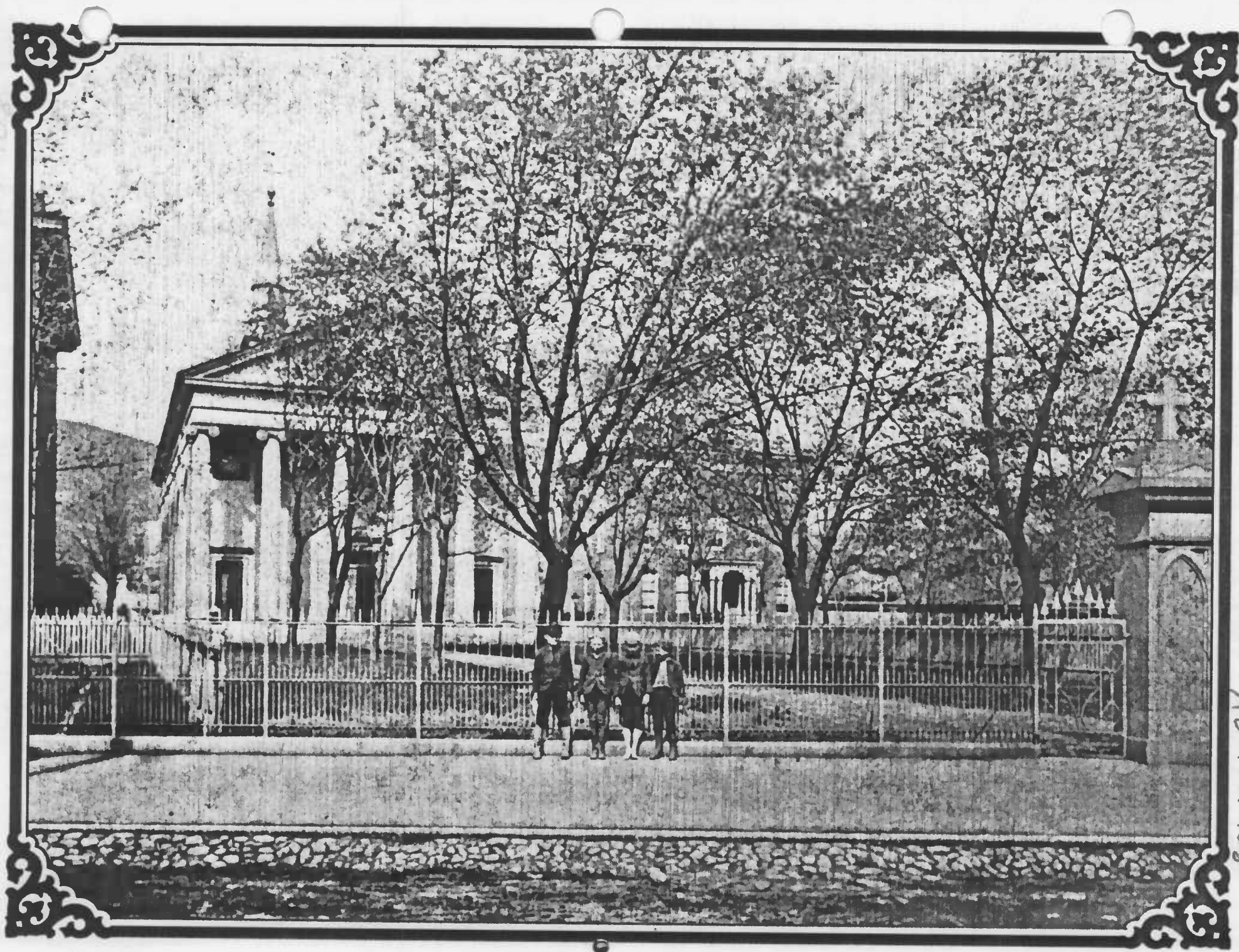
Large picture of the crucifixion, over the main altar,
lowered.

New pews and altar installed.

Door cut on rectory side.

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About three years ago, the old iron fence and gates were
removed and a low brick wall erected in memory of Leo Costello,
by his family.

..Research by Pauline McEvoy, Member
Maryland Historical Trust Committee
Allegany County, Md.



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Saint Patrick's Church

Cumberland has had an active Catholic community from the very beginning. In fact, the Catholics were numerous enough in 1791 to buy a lot for a church from the town's founder, Thomas Beall. A log church was built in 1792 near the site of present day Saint Patrick's. The name assigned was St. Mary's. Another, larger church was built in the 1830's and enlarged in the 1840's. The rapidly expanding congregation quickly outgrew the new facility.

Construction of a larger church, the present day Saint Patrick's, was begun in 1849 and completed in 1851. Designed by a proper architect, it was a large brick structure modeled after a Greek temple of the Ionic order. The style is known as Greek Revival and was one of the more popular in the early Victorian Era. The building featured Ionic columns outside and in, had stained glass windows, and was one of the most imposing structures in a town that still consisted mostly of log buildings.

The name of the church was changed from Saint Mary's to Saint Patrick's when the new church opened. The new name reflected the influence the growing community of Irish Catholics that had appeared during the construction of the B & O Railroad and the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal. While the population of Irish Catholics had grown during the 1840's, the German Catholic population had also grown. The new group split from the Irish congregation, and by 1848 had a church of their own.



St Patrick's Catholic Church 1970

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by Helen Straw Hinkle -